

IN THE CLAIMS

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Please amend the claims as shown on the attached marked-up copy to read as follows:

--12. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the cubic gel particles are formed from a mixture of at least two amphiphilic compounds, wherein one of the amphiphilic compounds forms a lamellar phase in the presence of water, and the other forms an inverse hexagonal phase in the presence of water.

AZ 13. (Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the amphiphilic compound which forms a lamellar phase is selected from the group consisting of diglycerol monoesters.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the amphiphilic compound which forms an inverse hexagonal phase is selected from the group consisting of diglycerol mono-, di- or triesters and aminopolyol carbamates, and mixtures thereof.

15. (Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the amphiphilic compound which forms a lamellar phase is selected from the group consisting of diglycerol isostearate and diglycerol monooleate, and mixtures thereof.

16. (Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the amphiphilic compound which forms an inverse hexagonal phase is selected from the group consisting of diglycerol 2-decyltetradecanoate, diglycerol di/trioleate, 3-N-(2-decyltetradecyloxycarbonyl)aminol, 2-propanediol and N-2-dodecylhexadecyloxycarbonyl-N-methyl-D-glucamine, and mixtures thereof.

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cont.

17. (Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the mixture of the two amphiphilic compounds consists of from 10% to 90% by weight of the amphiphilic compound which forms a lamellar phase and from 10% to 90% by weight of the amphiphilic compound which forms an inverse hexagonal phase, relative to the total weight of the mixture.

21. (Amended) The method of Claim 20, wherein said water-insoluble ionic amphiphilic lipid is at least one selected from the group consisting of:

- A3
- (i) phospholipids,
 - (ii) phosphoric esters of fatty acids,
 - (iii) water-insoluble N-acyl derivatives of glutamic acid and salts thereof,
 - (iv) sodium cetyl sulphate,
 - (v) sodium cocoylmonoglyceride sulphate, and
 - (vi) water-insoluble quaternary ammonium derivatives.--
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Please add the following claims.

--28. (New) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said keratin materials are in need of said protection from the effects of pollution.

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29. (New) The method according to Claim 24, wherein said keratin materials are in need of said protection from the effects of pollution.

30. (New) The method according to Claim 25, wherein said keratin materials are in need of said improvement, reduction and/or prevention.--

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